Export of sandal wood

458. SHRI C.O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of sandal wood exported during the last five years;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned during the above said period;

(c) whether it is a fact that India lost its position as a leading exporter of sandal wood;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) As per the Export Import Policy of Government of India, export of sandal wood is prohibited, since 1992.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Industrial projects in Himachal Pradesh

459. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industrial projects from Himachal Pradesh pending for approval by Government during the year 2001-2002 along with the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of cost of each of such project; and

(c) by when these projects will be cleared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) No Industrial License application for the State of Himachal Pradesh is pending for approval of the Central Government as on 1.11.2002.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Financial assistance to States

460. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allocated a sum of Rs. 330 crore for assistance to States for development of infrastructure for exports and other allied activities;